

STATE OF COLORADO

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State Representative
MARY ELLEN EPPS
217 Dexter Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80911
Home: (719) 392-3861
Capitol: 866-2946

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COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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DENVER
80203

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and Institutions Committee
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Finance Committee

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MAR 15 1993

March 10, 1993

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Ms. Donna R. Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Searcy and Members of the Commission:

RE: FCC Docket 92-235

I am writing on behalf of the fire departments in my House District which have expressed concern over FCC Docket 92-235. Your proposed rules will ultimately force all of the fire departments in my district to replace their existing communications equipment with newer technologies. It will also markedly reduce transmitter coverage and will render the State's significant investment in mutual aid communications equipment useless.

In light of their tremendous impact, my fundamental concern is whether these rules are absolutely necessary. Aside from this, I have grave reservations about your proposed implementation process and schedule.

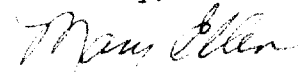
As I understand it, most of the fire departments in my district will not need to replace their radio equipment until January 1, 2010. However, the proposed transmitter adjustments required prior to January 1, 1996, will make communications with existing radios difficult, if not impossible. These changes will also render alert receivers and pagers useless. To be realistic, under your proposed implementation schedule, most fire departments will have to replace their communications equipment by January 1, 1996.

This is an unreasonable burden on fire departments in my District, many of which are small, volunteer agencies which have no budget to replace a single radio, let alone a complete communications system. Adding to the impracticality of this demand is a 1992 amendment to the Colorado Constitution which severely restricts the ability of the State and local governments to raise revenue collections and expenditures.

On behalf of the fire departments in my House District, I respectfully request you re-examine the impact of your proposed rules, and give specific consideration to extending the compliance dates.

The favor of a reply to this letter is requested.

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Epps
State Representative

MEE/bjs